

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS

REF: PAO LETTER #12

1. ATMOSPHERICS:

-- THERE WERE ABUNDANT OPTIMISTIC PUBLIC INDICATORS IN PAST WEEK CONCERNING TAIWAN'S FUTURE, INCLUDING FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENTS: (1) A SIX PERCENT INCREASE IN ROC COTTON, WOOL AND MAN-MADE FIBER TEXTILES TO U.S. IN 1975 MADE TAIWAN THIRD-LARGEST U.S. SUPPLIER, (2) A NEW U.S. \$54-MILLION LOAN FROM EXIMBANK AND CHASE MANHATTAN BANK TO EXPAND TAIWAN'S TELEPHONE SYSTEM, (3) LOCAL EXPORTERS AND BUSINESS LEADERS URGED BY GOVERNMENT TO TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF FAVORABLE BENEFITS OFFERED BY NEW U.S. DUTY SYSTEM, (4) NEW ANGLO-TAIWAN TRADE COMMITTEE, HEADED BY PETER B. GORST, ESTABLISHED IN TAIPEI TO PROMOTE GREATER ROC-BRITISH TRADE, (5) ROC WILL SELL 150,000 TONS OF CEMENT TO SAUDI ARABIA THIS YEAR, (6) MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS MEASURES BEING TAKEN TO INSURE EXPORT GOAL OF OVER \$US13 BILLION FOR THIS CALENDAR YEAR, (7) FIRST 445,000-TON

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TANKER BEING BUILT AT KAOHSIUNG'S NEW SHIPYARD WILL BE

DELIVERED TO ITS AMERICAN BUYER IN AUGUST 1977 AND SECOND TANKER SCHEDULED FOR DELIVERY IN 1978, (8) FIRST GENERATOR OF THE FIRST NUCLEAR POWER PLANT TO BEGIN OPERATION IN MAY 1977, SECOND GENERATOR SCHEDULED BEGIN OPERATION IN JUNE 1978 AND A LONG-RANGE SUPPLY OF ENRICHED URANIUM FUEL HAD BEEN CONTRACTED FOR, (9) THE ROC'S ECONOMIC GROWTH RATE FOR THIS YEAR SET AT 6.4 PERCENT, EIGHT PERCENT FOR INDUSTRY AND THREE PERCENT FOR AGRICULTURE, (10) FOREIGN AND OVERSEAS CHINESE INVESTMENTS IN TAIWAN DURING JANUARY 1976 TOTALED US\$5.5-MILLION AND FIVE TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECTS APPROVED WITH ONE U.S. AND FIVE JAPANESE COMPANIES, (11) CONSTRUCTION ON 10 MAJOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS GOING SMOOTHLY WITH ABOUT HALF AHEAD OF SCHEDULE AND OTHERS LAGGING ONLY SLIGHTLY BEHIND, AND (12) THE NEW TAICHUNG HARBOR, ONE OF 10 PROJECTS, WILL BE PARTIALLY OPENED IN OCTOBER 1976.

2. MEDIA REACTION:

-- RICHARD NIXON'S SCHEDULED PRC VISIT WAS VERY MUCH ON MINDS OF MEDIA COMMENTATORS THIS WEEK, MAJOR PAPERS REPORTED SUBSTANCE OF PRESIDENT FORD'S NEWS CONFERENCE REMARKS ON SUBJECT AND USIS TAIPEI DISTRIBUTED FULL TEXT HIS REMARKS. ONE PAPER, INDEPENDENCE EVENING POST (TSE LI WAN PAO) (40,000), CALLED NIXON "THE MOST WICKED PRESIDENT IN U.S. HISTORY" AND SAID HE MIGHT WELL REVEAL NATIONAL SECRETS TO CHINESE COMMUNISTS. ON A CALMER NOTE, COMMENTATOR TAO PAI-CHUAN WROTE FROM U.S. IN CHINA TIMES (CHUNG KUO SHIH PAO) (350,000) ABOUT REPLY HE RECEIVED TO HIS LETTER TO PRESIDENT FORD LAST NOVEMBER URGING FORD CANCEL PEKING VISIT. TAO SAID FORD'S REPLY, REPORTEDLY DRAFTED AT STATE DEPARTMENT, STRESSED AMONG OTHER THINGS THAT: (1) FORD'S TRIP REASSERTED U.S. LONG-TERM INTERESTS IN ACHIEVING NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH PRC AND EXPANDING CONTACTS WITH ITS LEADERS, (2) FORD REPEATEDLY REITERATED IN PEKING SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE WILL CONTINUE AS BASIC DOCUMENT ON TAIWAN ISSUE, (3) TAO ASSURED U.S. WILL NOT FORGET ITS FRIENDS AND ALLIES IN ASIA-PACIFIC AREA AND (4) U.S. CONCERN FOR PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF TAIWAN ISSUE EXPLICITLY STATED IN SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE AND UNCLASSIFIED

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REAFFIRMED BY KISSINGER IN PEKING NEWS CONFERENCE. TAO SAID STATE DEPARTMENT'S REPLY QUITE CLEAR AND HONEST IN TERMS OF DIPLOMATIC PHRASEOLOGY. IT CONFIRMED, HE SAID, U.S. WILL INSIST ON TERMS OF THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE AS LIMITS FOR NORMALIZATION; IF THIS TRUE, THERE NO POSSIBILITY OF U.S.-PRC DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS NEXT YEAR BECAUSE SERIOUS DIPLOMATIC AND DOMESTIC MATTERS ARE CONCERNED ON BOTH SIDES.

-- POST REPORTED (WEEK 0974) FEBRUARY 9 NEWSWEEK INTERNATIONAL BANNED BASED ON DISTRIBUTOR ADVICE. HOWEVER, ISSUE ULTIMATELY RELEASED INTACT WITH FEBRUARY 16 EDITION. STORY ON TAIWAN CARRIED IN FULL WITHOUT DELETIONS. WALL STREET JOURNAL FEBRUARY 6 STORY ON TAIWAN/PREMIER CHIANG CARRIED IN PART BY CHINESE/ENGLISH PRESS PICKING UP MOST FAVORABLE SECTIONS.

3. PROGRAM ACTIVITIES:

-- WHITE HOUSE CURATOR CLEMENT E. CONGER GAVE POPULAR SLIDE LECTURE, "THE WHITE HOUSE AND ITS COLLECTIONS" TWICE DURING FOUR-DAY TAIPEI VISIT FEBRUARY 15-19. AT NATIONAL PALACE MUSEUM FEBRUARY 16, CONGER ADDRESSED AUDIENCE OF 200 ARTISTS, ART TEACHERS, STUDENTS AND MUSEUM STAFF. GENERAL AUDIENCE OF 120 HEARD HIM REPEAT SAME LECTURE AT USIS LINCOLN CENTER FEBRUARY 18. CONGER'S WITTY, ANECDOTAL AND OFTEN WHIMSICAL REMARKS ABOUT WHITE HOUSE COLLECTION OF PAINTINGS AND PERIOD FURNITURE AND HOW ACQUIRED DELIGHTED BOTH AUDIENCES. HIS TWO-HOUR PRESENTATION AT PALACE MUSEUM SO ENTHUSIASTICALLY RECEIVED THAT AUDIENCE HELD CONGER IN Q/A DISCUSSION OVER AN HOUR AFTER LECTURE'S END. NOTED ART CRITIC PRAISED USIS PRESENTATION AS HIGHLY ENJOYABLE AND INFORMATIVE.

REPORTERS FROM SEVERAL PAPERS COVERED PALACE MUSEUM PRESENTATION AND TWO CARRIED STORIES REVIEWING TALK HIGH-LIGHTS IN FOLLOWING DAY EDITIONS. MOREOVER, "THE WORLD OF TOMORROW" MAGAZINE ASKED POST FOR TAPE OF CONGER'S REMARKS TO DO ARTICLE ON WHITE HOUSE COLLECTION IN APRIL ISSUE. WE NOT INFORMED OF CONGER'S AVAILABILITY AS A SPEAKER UNTIL WEEK BEFORE HIS ARRIVAL BUT DESPITE LAST MINUTE NATURE OF UNCLASSIFIED

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PROGRAM ARRANGEMENTS CONGER'S LECTURES MADE STRONG, APPEALING CONTRIBUTION TO POST OVERALL PROGRAMMING ON CPM OBJECTIVE 5.

-- PAO INVITED 25 SOCIOLOGISTS, ANTHROPOLOGISTS, CRITICS LUNCHEON SHOWING IMV'S MARGARET MEADE FILM "REFLECTIONS." REACTION BY AND LARGE INDIVIDUALLY FAVORABLE, THOUGH NUMBER PROFESSORS DWELT ON DIFFICULTIES CLASS USE VIEW LENGTH, TRANSLATION PROBLEMS, VARIETY OF IDEAS DISCUSSED. SOME FOUND ONE-HOUR MONOLOGUE FATIGUING, PER SE DESPITE RICHNESS MEADE IDEAS AND HER FACILITY OF EXPRESSION. NO PROSPECTS SEEN FOR GENERAL TV USE. DETAILED FM TO FOLLOW.

--ANNUAL USIS LECTURE SERIES ON STUDY IN U.S. OPENED WITH LINCOLN CENTER LECTURE, "GRADUATE STUDY IN THE U.S. -

A BROAD OVERVIEW" BY USEF/C EXECUTIVE SECRETARY JENNIE WU
FEBRUARY 12. LECTURE DREW OVERFLOW CROWD OF 500 AND MANY
COULD NOT BE ACCOMMODATED. LECTURE ACCOMPANIED BY SHOWING
OF IMV FILM "IF YOU WANT TO STUDY IN THE U.S." AND AIMED
AT PROVIDING PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS BACKGROUND INFORMATION
HELPFUL IN MAKING INTELLIGENT CHOICE WHETHER OR NOT PURSUE
U.S. STUDY. DUE POPULARITY OF SERIES, WE EXPECT TO
SCHEDULE FUTURE LECTURES - TO INCLUDE "CHOOSING A SCHOOL"
AND "HOW TO APPLY FOR ADMISSION" - AT LEAST TWICE TO HANDLE
HIGH TURNOUTS. AUDIOTAPES OF LECTURE ADDED TO LIBRARY
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